

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.     **(Currently Amended)** A snowmobile, comprising:  
        a frame;  
        two skis disposed at a forward end of the frame;  
        an endless drive track disposed beneath a rearward end of the frame to propel the snowmobile;  
        a seat mounted on the frame adapted to accommodate at least one person;  
        a fairing disposed rearwardly of the seat, the fairing having an upwardly and rearwardly inclined rear end face; and  
        a storage compartment defined by an interior of the fairing.
2.     **(Original)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fairing further comprises an upper portion and a lower portion, the upper portion being pivotally connected to the lower portion.
3.     **(Original)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one of the upper portion and the lower portion comprises a material different from that of the seat.
4.     **(Original)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 3, wherein the upper portion comprises a more rigid material than that of the seat.
5.     **(Original)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 2, wherein the upper portion and the lower portion mate with one another in a closed position and do not mate with one another in an opened position, and wherein the upper portion pivots to a predetermined angle of up to 150 degrees when in the opened position.

6. **(Original)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 5, wherein the upper portion and the lower portion mate with one another in a closed position and do not mate with one another in an opened position, and wherein, when in the closed position, the upper portion mates with the lower portion at a junction wherein the junction includes a seal disposed on one of the upper portion and the lower portion.
7. **(Original)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 2, wherein the lower portion comprises a tail light.
8. **(Original)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fairing includes a lock.
9. **(Currently Amended)** A snowmobile comprising:
  - a frame;
  - two skis disposed at a forward end of the frame;
  - an endless drive track disposed beneath a rearward end of the frame to propel the snowmobile;
  - a seat mounted on the frame adapted to accommodate at least one person, the seat having a rear end;
  - a fairing positioned rearwardly of the seat, wherein the fairing includes an upper portion and a lower portion, the fairing having an upwardly and rearwardly inclined rear end face; and
  - a storage compartment formed by a portion of the rear end of the seat, the upper portion of the fairing and the lower portion of the fairing.
10. **(Previously Amended)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 9, wherein the fairing tapers inwardly toward a rear end of the.
11. **(Previously Amended)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 9, wherein a rearward end of the fairing has a pointed shape.

12. **(Previously Amended)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 9, wherein a rearward end of the fairing has a blunt shape.
13. **(Original)** A snowmobile as claimed in claim 9, wherein the fairing extends a predetermined distance beyond the rearward end of the frame.
14. **(Previously Amended)** A snowmobile, comprising:  
a frame;  
two skis disposed at a forward end of the frame;  
an endless drive track disposed beneath a rearward end of the frame to propel the snowmobile;  
a seat mounted on the frame adapted to accommodate at least one person, the seat comprising a foam covered by a flexible material;  
a plastic fairing disposed rearwardly of the seat, the fairing comprising an upper portion and a lower portion, a storage compartment formed between the upper portion and the lower portion, the upper portion being pivotally connected to the lower portion so as to provide access the storage compartment; and  
a tail light disposed on a rear end of the lower portion of the fairing.
15. **(New)** A snowmobile comprising:  
a frame;  
two skis disposed at a forward end of the frame;  
an engine disposed on the frame;  
an endless drive track disposed beneath a rearward end of the frame tunnel and operatively connected to the engine to propel the snowmobile;  
two skis mounted to the frame, each via a front suspension;  
a straddle seat disposed on the frame above the drive track and rearward of the engine, the seat having an upwardly and rearwardly inclined rear end face; and  
a fairing disposed rearward of the seat, the fairing having an upwardly and rearwardly inclined face opposing the rear end face of the seat.
16. **(New)** The snowmobile of claim 15, wherein the fairing further includes a rear

end face, the rear end face having a least a portion which is upwardly inclined.

17. **(New)** The snowmobile of claim 16, wherein the fairing further includes a tail light disposed in the upwardly inclined rear end face.

18. **(New)** The snowmobile of claim 15, wherein a storage compartment is formed between the seat and the fairing.

19. **(New)** A snowmobile comprising:

a frame;

two skis disposed at a forward end of the frame;

an engine disposed on the frame;

an endless drive track disposed beneath a rearward end of the frame tunnel and operatively connected to the engine to propel the snowmobile;

two skis mounted to the frame, each via a front suspension;

a straddle seat disposed on the frame above the drive track and rearward of the engine, the seat having an upwardly and rearwardly inclined rear end face with respect to the frame;

a storage compartment defined at least in part by the frame and the rear end face.